

Reigate + Redhill YMCA Children's Services

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	122628
Inspection date	14/04/2009
Inspector	Teresa Elkington / Helen Penticost
Setting address	Princes Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 6JJ
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Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

Reigate and Redhill YMCA Children's Services is a after-school club, holiday play scheme and Saturday playscheme for children aged 4 to 12 years. It operates from four self-contained rooms in the YMCA premises in Redhill. There is a hard sports court and enclosed grassed area for active play and children also have access to an indoor sports hall. A maximum of 100 children may attend the setting at any one time. The after-school club operates from 15:15 to 18:00 during term time and the holiday club opens every school holiday, from 08.45 to 18.00. The Saturday Yippee Club operates from 10:00 to 16:00. Children are drawn from a number of local schools and attend for a variety of sessions. There are variable numbers of children who attend, this registration includes children on the Early years and compulsory part of the Childcare Register. The setting currently supports a number of children with special needs or who speak English as an additional language.

There are 40 members of staff, eight of whom have play work qualifications. In addition, six staff members have relevant sports coaching qualifications and six staff are currently working towards a relevant recognised qualification. The setting receives support from the local authority.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The setting provides a fully inclusive environment, where children's individual needs are highlighted and met. Children play happily and are contented in the fun atmosphere created by the enthusiastic staffing team, who fully engage with the children in their chosen activities. Good quality policies and procedures ensures that children are safeguarded at all times and they develop an awareness of their own personal safety. The setting are aware of the areas that need developing, in particular staffing qualification levels and they are committed to continuous improvement to raise outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop staff's knowledge and understanding regarding the delivery of activities to differing age groups
- ensure that children are given an explanation as to why their behaviour is unacceptable or inappropriate

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- ensure that all managers and supervisors hold a full and relevant level 3 qualification and half of all other staff hold a full and relevant level 2 qualification (Suitable people)

01/09/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded well, as appropriate procedures are in place which protect children from harm and neglect. For example, risk assessments are carried out annually by the Operations Manager and then daily by staff to ensure that the environment is safe for children. Accident records are maintained and assessed to ensure any accident hot spots are highlighted and any potential hazards are minimized.

Staff are well deployed throughout the setting under the watchful observation of the supervisor, to ensure that all areas are adequately staffed. This involves observing numbers of children indoors and outdoors and assigning the staff appropriately. This ensures that children are always fully supervised and supported at all times. Clear systems are in place for the recruitment of new staff and a full induction program is in place, ensuring that they receive appropriate training in Child Protection, health and safety and first aid. However, the requirement regarding appropriate levels of qualified staff is not being met.

There are good arrangements to create effective partnerships with parents and other providers to ensure individual children's needs are met. The setting communicates with parents in a variety of ways, including, information boards, well presented literature detailing activities on offer and seeks their views through the use of feedback cards. The setting works very closely with numerous outside agencies and are involved with care plan and school meetings, to ensure that the additional needs of all children are supported effectively.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children have access to a secure environment, where their play areas have been well organised to ensure that they have fun in a fully inclusive atmosphere, where they can relax and play. A quiet side room also allows children to complete their homework when they attend the after school club. A wide variety of resources are available to children, which they access during timetabled free play. They participate in a planned focused activity twice a day within their age appropriate groups. However, staff lack a full understanding of how to tailor some of the activities effectively, to ensure that the younger children are able to achieve their full creative potential.

Staff are fully supportive of children's play and act as facilitators, for example, in card, table top and outdoor games. Children respond positively to the interactions of all staff and volunteers which creates a calm yet playful atmosphere. Behaviour is generally good as children show respect for their peers and staff. The play scheme ground rules are explained to children as a whole group at the start of each session, where children are given opportunities to ask questions and also offer their own rules. However, staff do not continue this use of explanation and give commands to children when dealing with unacceptable behaviour without offering an explanation alongside. Therefore, children do not compound their

understanding as to why their behaviour may have been inappropriate.

Children who attend the playscheme bring with them their own packed lunches which are eaten within a social environment where staff are on hand to support and encourage independence in accessing their lunchboxes and opening food parcels. Notices are available to alert parents to the importance of not including nut based foods in lunch boxes if children attending have known allergies. There are good levels of hygiene throughout the setting, for example, children use anti-bacterial hand gel prior to mealtimes. Children have daily access to the outdoor play areas ensuring that they have plenty of fresh air. Clear systems are in place for the collection of children from the local schools. Some children walk from their school to the setting and very clear rules are in place to ensure their safety. These factors ensure that children learn about how to keep themselves safe, fit and healthy.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

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Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are: Met

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met